

# A Historical Reanalysis of the Regina Cyclone

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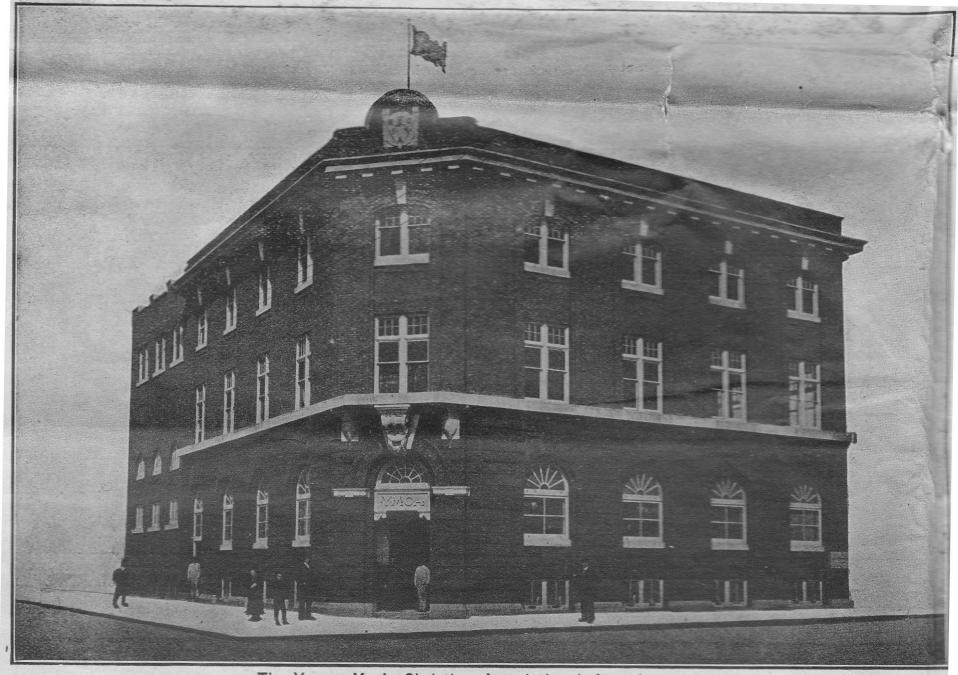
NWS Forecast Office Glasgow, MT

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#### Motivation

- Regina is about 70 miles north of the northern extent of the Glasgow, MT County Warning Area
- Be prepared to recognize a pattern that would favor destructive tornadoes in Northeast Montana



The Young Men's Christian Association before the storm.



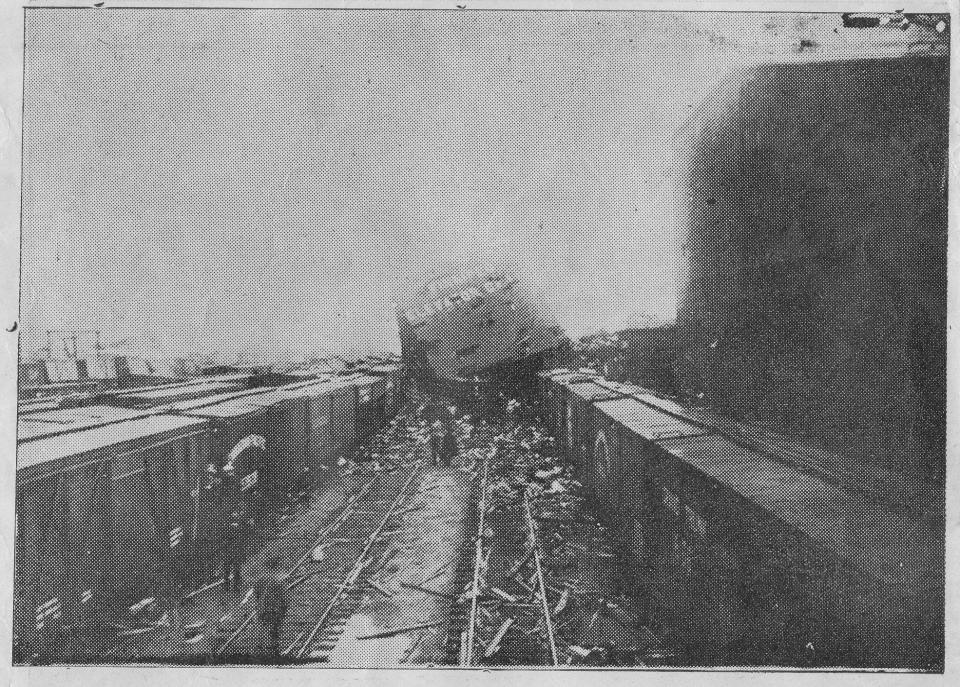
The Young Men's Christian Association after the blow. Many people were injured in this building.



Here were some of the finest residences in Regina. The remains of homes on Lorne Street.



View of C.P.R. yards after the tornado. Cars were carried a hundred feet or more.



Another view of C.P.R. yards. Note the grain elevator blown across the tracks.



'Scene in C. P. R. yards. Note the grain elevator turned over on the cars.

## Historical Background

- "Cyclone struck Regina, 16.50k. City in ruins"
- Struck 4:50 CST Sunday 30 June 1912
- Intensity: F4 (333-418km/hr)
- Formed 18km south of Regina?
- Funnel was 400m wide?
- Duration: 3 min or 20 min?

## Historical Background

- Deadliest Tornado in Canadian History
- 28 Killed
- 2500 Homeless
- 1.2 million in property damage
- Took nearly 40 years to pay off loans
- Homeless financially responsible for shelter

### Historical Background

- Occurred the day prior to Dominion Day
- Very hot and humid day
- Dramatic Survival Stories and Tragic Stories

# Synoptic Highlights

- Weekly Forecast Issued 23 June 1912
- "The pressure distribution over the American Continent and the adjacent oceans is such as to indicate that the coming week will be one of warm and generally fair weather over the Northern and Middle States east of the Rocky Mountains, while in the Southern State and generally west of the Rocky Mountains temperatures will average near the normal with local rains. The precipitation during the week will be light and local. It is not probable that a well-defined depression will cross the country during the week." [Monthly Weather Review, June 1912]

# Synoptic Highlights

"On the last day of the month a destructive tornado visited the city of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan in western Canada about 6 p.m. Three hundred houses are reported destroyed and many persons killed." [Monthly Weather Review, 1912]

# Synoptic Highlights

- Very Warm temperatures extended well north into high plains of North America the week prior to the tornado
- A strong cold front moved into intermountain west of North America
- Surface low was situated south of Regina the day of the tornado

## 30 June Maximum Temperatures

_	Williston, ND	98
•	Glendive, MT	93
-	Saskatoon, SK	88
-	Regina, SK	86
-	Glasgow, MT	80
-	Billings, MT	80
-	Medicine Hat, AB	75
_	Havre, MT	67
•	Cut Bank, MT	59
•	Calgary, AB	51

# Daily Max Temperature Trend

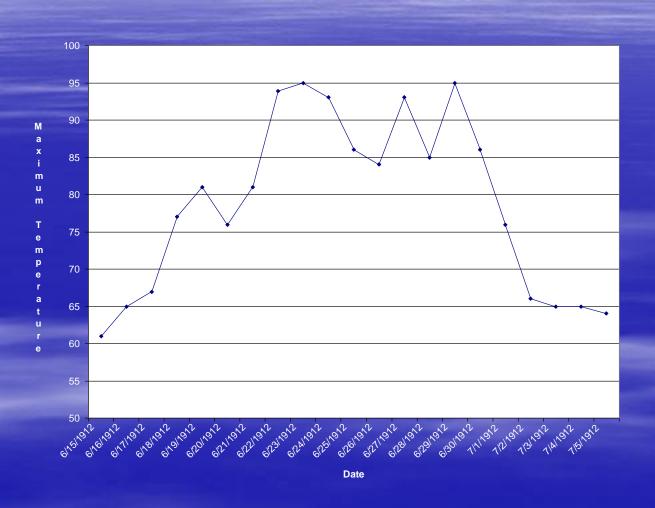
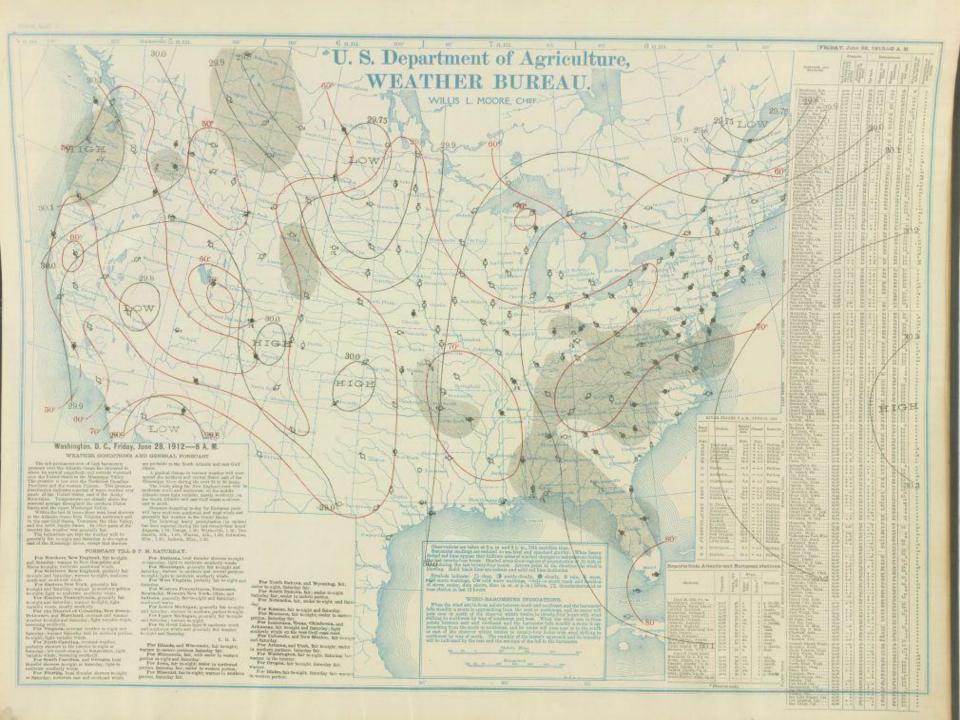
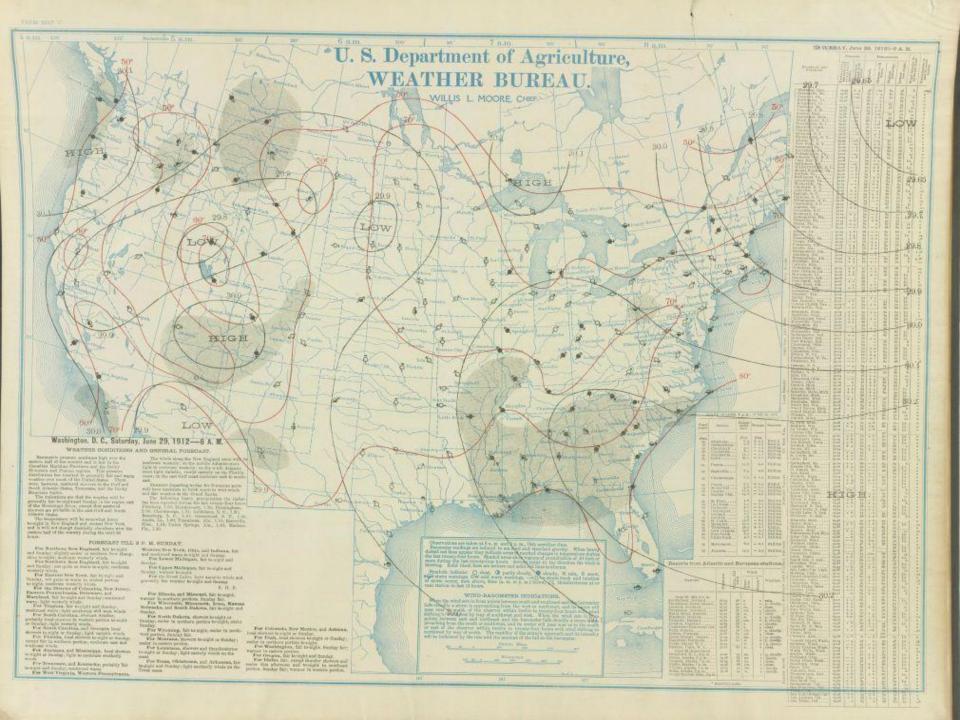
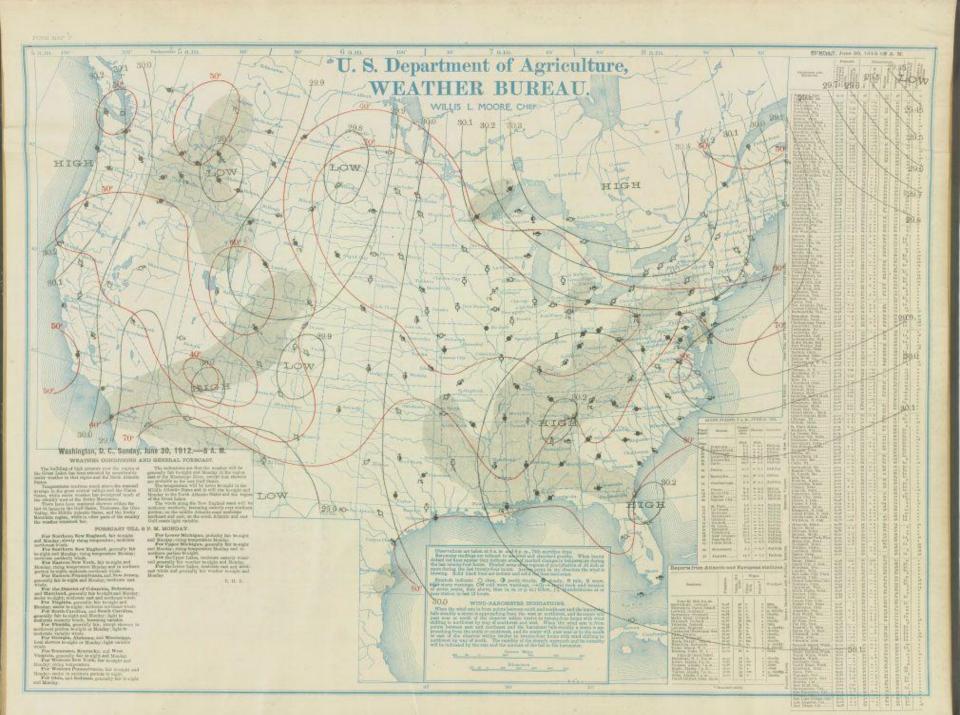


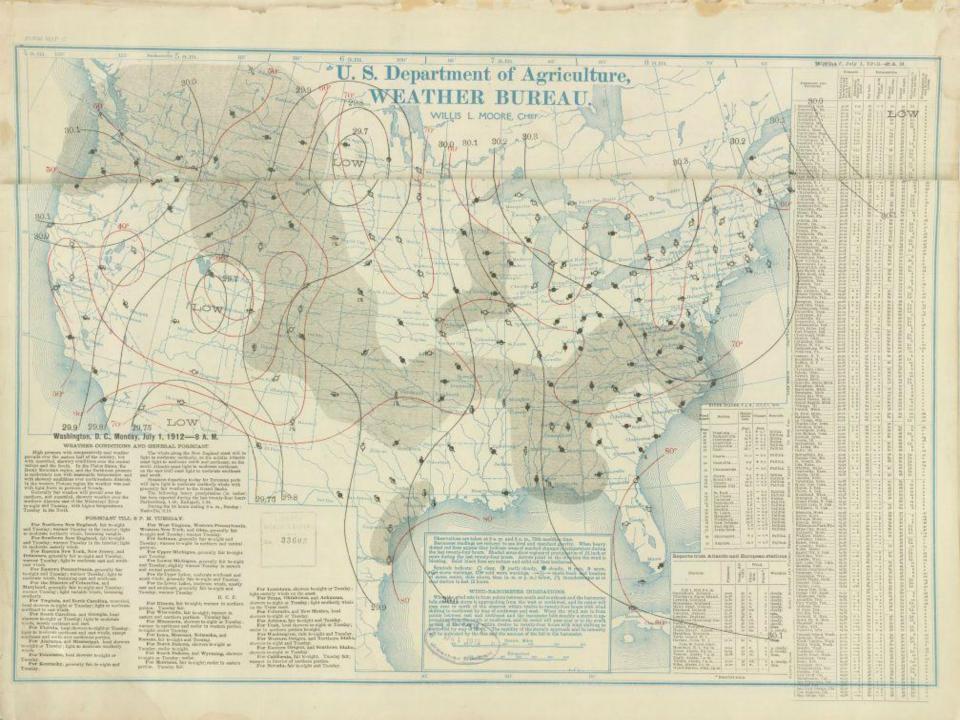


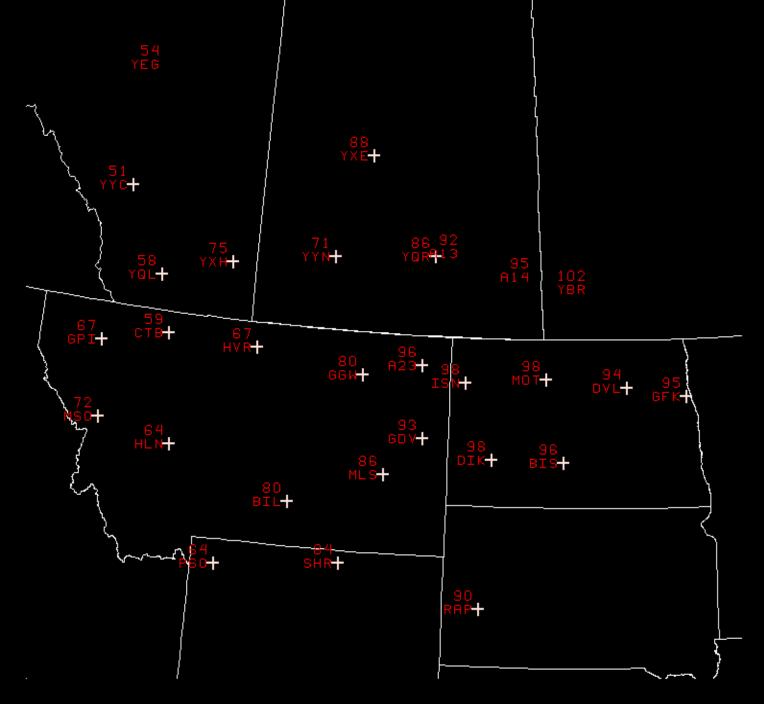
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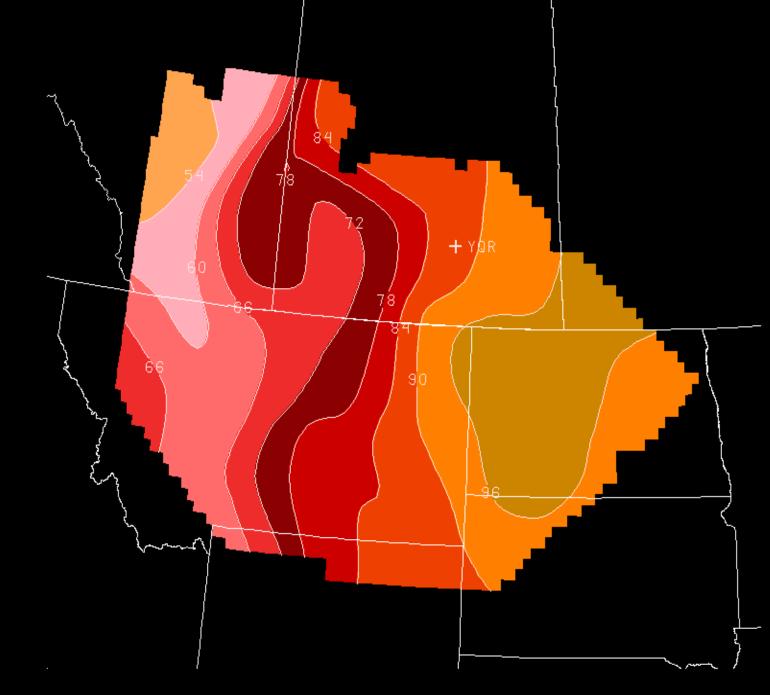




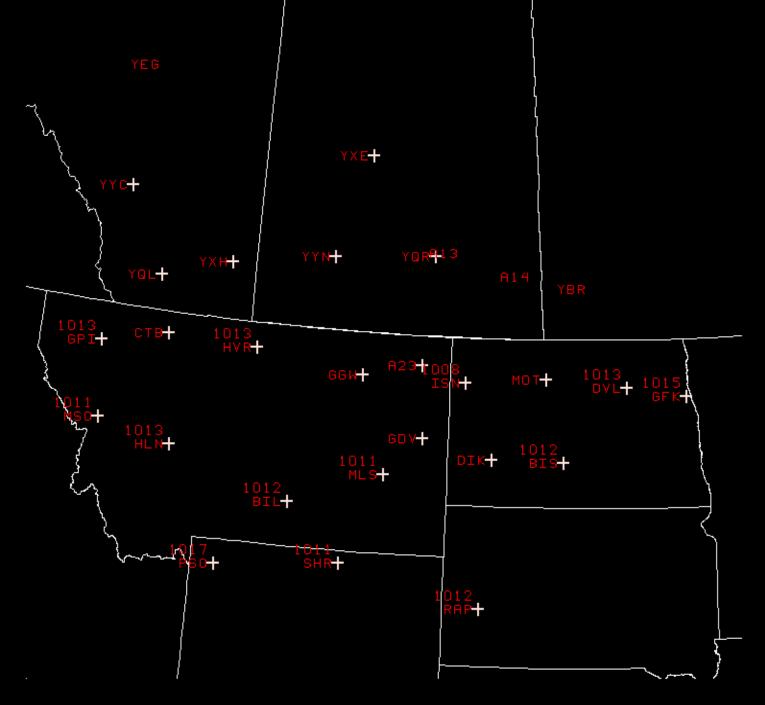




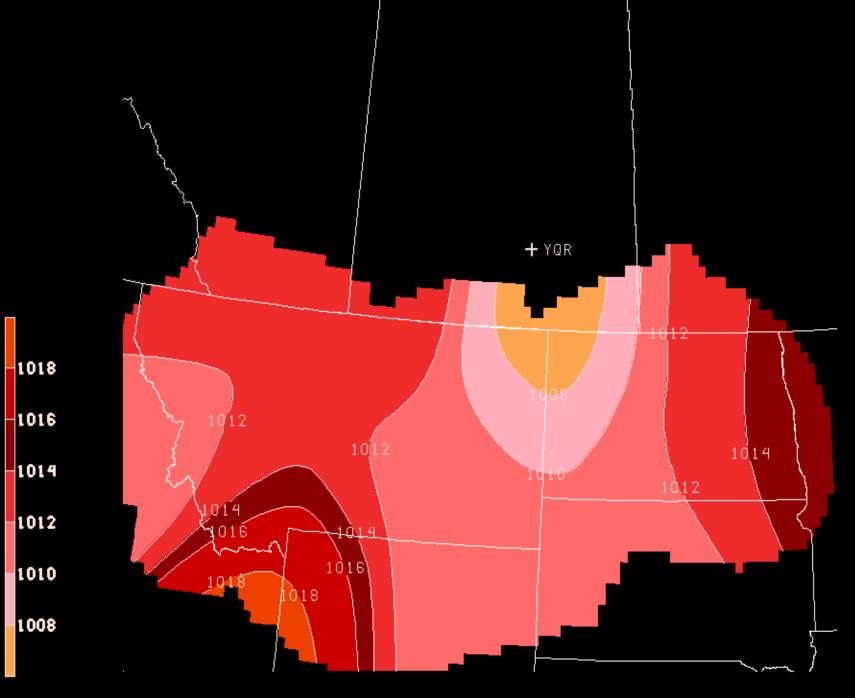
MAX T, deg. F. June 3D 1912 --- Regina Cyclone



MAX T, deg. F. June 30 1912 --- Regina Cyclone



ALT Press, mb June 30 1912 --- Regina Cyclone



MAX T, deg. F. June 30 1912 --- Regina Cyclone

#### Conclusions Etc.

- Hot temperatures and anomalously high moisture
- Strong Cold Front
- Position of Surface Low and Unusual Track
- High CAPE vs High Shear?
- Upper Level Pattern?
- Upper Level Forcing?
- Storm Organization?
  - Cell Merger?
  - HP Supercell?



#### Sources

- Climate data: xmClimate, xmAcis, Environment Canada: http://www.climate.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/climateData
- Surface Low Tracks: Monthly Weather Review, June 1912
- Daily Weather Maps: <u>http://docs.lib.noaa.gov/rescue/dwm/data\_rescue\_daily\_weather\_maps\_.</u>
   .html
- Photographs: Regina Leader Post, Regina Cyclone Souvenir
- The CBC Digital Archives Website, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation: <a href="http://archives.cbc.ca/environment/extreme\_weather/clips/11750/">http://archives.cbc.ca/environment/extreme\_weather/clips/11750/</a>
- Saskatchewan Council for Archives and Archivists: http://scaa.usask.ca/gallery/regina/central/cyclone.html
- The Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan: <a href="http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/regina\_cyclone.html">http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/regina\_cyclone.html</a>